

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ON U.S. -SOVIET RELATIONS AND HR

REF: MOSCOW 3678

1. SUMMARY. SOVIET PRESS CONTINUES WITH INCREASINGLY
HARSH COMMENTS ON U.S. LEADERS, CITING BRZEZINSKI CRITICALLY
AND BY NAME FOR HIS "TWILIGHT ZONE" THEORY. ALSO, FOR
FIRST TIME VIEWS OF SENATOR JACKSON, BETE NOIR OF SOVIETS,
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ARE REPORTED TO BE LISTENED TO "WITH INTEREST" IN THE
WHITE HOUSE. FINALLY, FILM DIRECTOR SERGEY BONDARCHUK
CRITICIZES PRESIDENT FOR MEETING BUKOVSKIY AND ASSERTS
CULTURAL EXCHANGES BEING UNDERMINED BY DETENTE ENEMIES.
END SUMMARY.

2. PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK REVIEW COLUMN MARCH 20

BY GEORGIY RATIANI AND IZVESTIYA'S COMMENTARY MARCH 19 BY V. MATEYEV ARE BOTH STRONGLY CRITICAL OF HR "CAM-PAIGN" IN U.S. WHICH IS PORTRAYED AS HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH RIGHTS OR FREEDOM, BUT IS CHIEFLY ATTEMPT TO STOP AND EVEN REVERSE PROGRESS OF DETENTE AND TO REKINDLE ARMS RACE. RATIANI CITES EVANS AND NOVAK TO SAY THAT "(SENATOR) JACKSON'S TEAM" IS GETTING A HEARING IN THE WHITE HOUSE, AND GOES ON TO MENTION WHAT HE CALLS ZBIGNEW BRZESINKI'S "TWILIGHT ZONE" THEORY OF VIETNAM ERA IN WHICH GREAT POWERS CAN TAKE "DANGEROUS STEPS" USING THREATS, DEMONSTRATIONS OF STRENGTH AND LOCAL CONFLICTS AS LONG AS THEY DO NOT OVERSTEP THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ZONE. RATIANI SARCASTICALLY REMARKS THAT THIS IS HOW "ART OF DIPLOMACY" IS VIEWED BY "CERTAIN AMERICAN LEADERS" AND FOLLOWS UP BY CITING SENATOR SPARKMAN AND "VARIOUS VOICES" IN EUROPE (UNNAMED) WHO ARE CONCERNED THAT THIS WILL UNDERMINE DETENTE. AFTER ALL THESE NEGATIVE COMMENTS, RATIANI, NONETHELESS, ENDS ON A POSITIVE NOTE, THAT THE PRESIDENT'S UN SPEECH SPOKE OF SEEKING COOPERATION WITH USSR, AND THAT IT WOULD BE GOOD IF THESE WORDS WERE FOLLOWED BY REAL ACTIONS.

3. MATVEYEV MAKES MANY OF THE SAME NEGATIVE POINTS AS RATIANI, ALBEIT IN MUCH CONDENSED FORM, AND ENDS ON SAME NOTE THAT SALT AND OTHER TALS REQUIRE "FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE" AND "PRACTICAL ACTIONS", NOT JUST DECLARATIONS.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE GETS FURTHER TREATMENT IN IZVESTIYA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MARCH 19 BY NOTED SOVIET FILM ACTOR AND DIRECTOR SERGEY BONDARCHUK WHO EXAMINED THE EFFECTS OF THE "WAVE OF ANTI-SOVIETISM" CURRENTLY ENGULFING U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS. REGRETABLELY, EVEN OFFICIAL FIGURES HAVE LENT THEMSELVES TO THE SO-CALLED "HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN", AS EVIDENCED BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S "UNFRIENDLY ACTION TOWARD THE USSR" IN RECEIVING BUKOVSKIY (WHILE AMAL'RIK TRAVELS ABOUT EUROPE "KNOCKING ON DOORS OF OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS").

5. TURNING TO THE U.S. CULTURAL SCENE, BONDARCHUK COMPLAINS THAT ASPIRATIONS OF SVVIET CULTURAL WORKERS FOR "NORMAL CREATIVE CONTACTS" WITH AMERICANS OFTEN "HIT A BLANK WALL" BECAUSE OF THE ONE-SIDED U.S. INTERPRETATION OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE. FOR ITS PART, THE USSR SHOWS THE BEST WESTERN FILMS TO HUGE SOVIET AUDIENCES. BUT WESTERN PROPAGANDISTS TRY TO PEDDLE BOURGEOIS IDEOLOGY AND MORALITY AS THEIR RIGHT UNDER CULTURAL EXCHANGE WHILE THEY CONSIGN SOVIET FILMS--OFTEN HIGHLY PRAISED BY WESTERN FILM CRITICS--TO COLLECT DUST ON THE SHELF, ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE PRIVATE

ENTREPRENEURS DO NOT WISH TO RELEASE THEM. WHILE THUS SUPPRESSING SOVIET FILMS, WESTERN FILM PRODUCERS CRANK OUT ANTI-SOVIET EPICS LIKE "FIRST CIRCLE" OR "GRIL FROM PETROVKA". SUCH INSTANCES, CONCLUDES BONDARCHUK, ARE NOT THE ACTS OF PRIVATE CITIZENS BUT THE RESULT OF DELIBERATE EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE DETENTE.

6. A VITRIOLIC ARTICLE WAS ALSO PUBLISHED IN MAR. 20 PRAVDA BY VALENTIN KATAYEV, AN EMINENT OFFICIAL SOVIET WRITER. IN A VICIOUS POISON-PEN TYPE HE TRACED THE IDEOLOGICAL GENEALOGY OF PRESENT-DAY DISSIDENTS, BACK TO WORLD WAR II TRAITORS LIKE VLASOV AND EVEN FURTHER BACK TO THE WHITE GUARDS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD, KOLCHAK AND DENIKIN. WITH HEAVY IRONY HE NOTED THAT THE OLD SAYING "TELL ME WHO YOUR FRIENDS ARE, AND I WILL TELL YOU WHO YOU ARE" APPLIES TO THE HIGHLY PLACED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OFFICIAL PERSONAGES WHO OSTENTATIONALLY RECEIVE DISSIDENTS; THEY ARE RELATED TO THOSE WESTERN STATESMEN WHO TRIED TO OVERTHROW THE BOLSHEVIK REGIME BY ORGANIZING THE ILL-FATED INTERVENTION. KATAYEV RECOMMENDS A RETURN TO LENIN'S CONCEPT OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AS A SAFER AND SANER POLICY IN A WORLD OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS.

7. COMMENT: THIS LOOKS LIKE MORE OF SAME PRE-VISIT HARD LINE REPORTED REFTEL, WITH ADDED SPICE OF MENTION OF BRZEZINSKI BY NAME AND LINKING OF SENATOR JACKSON TO WHITE HOUSE. KATAYEV PIECE SEEMS PARTICULARLY HARSH AND HIS THINLY VEILED REFERENCE TO WESTERN "PERSONAGES" CLEARLY REFERS TO CARTER-BUKOVSKIY MEETING. IF, IN SOVIET VIEW, SECRETARY'S VISIT DOES NOT PRODUCE REQUISITE PRACTICAL "ACTIONS", THEY HAVE PREPARED GROUND FOR THEIR EXPLANATION OF WHY FAULT FOR LACK OF PROGRESS WILL LIE ON U.S. SIDE.
TOON

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